

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 156

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to designate April 2011 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a societal problem that affects every community within Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, sadly, the number of abused or neglected children continues to increase every year; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect includes physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and physical neglect, all of which may be the result of a multiplicity of such social problems as family dysfunction, mental health problems, substance abuse, inadequate parenting skills, teen pregnancy, homelessness, family violence, crime, and poverty; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of community and state leadership to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect, and to establish prevention and support mechanisms for children and parents in order to stop the cycle of abuse that destroys the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, the designation of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month is an effort to raise awareness of child abuse and to encourage communities throughout Tennessee to create cooperation and partnerships among social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community, and to become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize the intense problem of child abuse and the lasting effects it has on Tennessee's most precious resource—our children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby designate the month of April 2011, as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.